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Editor's Preface

Daniel McClellan

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

Wonderful changes have been taking place at BYU in the study of the ancient world. The most important change is without a doubt the recent addition of the Ancient Near Eastern Studies major, with Hebrew/Old Testament and Greek/New Testament tracks. The first group of graduates from the program are finishing up their final semester this spring, and several have already been accepted to distinguished graduate programs throughout the world. With the new major has come a new club, the Students of the Ancient Near East (SANE). Justin Watkins has served as the president of SANE since its inception, with Dr. Dana M. Pike serving as faculty adviser. Members of SANE have been treated recently to several notable guest speakers, including Dr. Gary A. Rendsburg from Rutgers University, Dr. Peter Flint from Trinity Western University, and Dr. Fayza M. H. Haikal from the American University in Cairo. In addition to these special guests, the club has hosted several lectures from members of BYU's own faculty, including Daniel C. Peterson, John Gee, and Stephen Bay.

This issue of *Studia Antiqua* would not have been possible without the help of the faculty adviser Stephen D. Ricks and production advisers Mel Thorne and Linda Adams. Additionally, each member of the faculty review board has been indispensable. The Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship, the ANES program, and the Students of the Ancient Near East have also made contributions without which this issue would not be possible. Our sincerest thanks to them all.

Amidst all of the change, *Studia Antiqua* will itself undergo quite a transformation following this issue as it moves under the umbrella of the Religious Studies Center. Publication will follow the same general schedule (fall and spring issues), but submissions will be accepted year round. Beginning May 1, 2007, papers may be sent at any time to studia_antiqua@yahoo.com. Deadlines for the fall and spring issues will be announced later. A website is also under construction that will contain PDFs of archived issues, submission guidelines, and style suggestions. Students interested in editing opportunities can contact Daniel McClellan at the above e-mail address.

Daniel McClellan
Editor in Chief